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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, in these halls of power, where decisions change lives and shape national policy, we pause to acknowledge Your sovereignty over us and over our Nation.

In Your infinite mercy, You have laid on the shoulders of these lawmakers the mantle of Your own authority, and we pray for both the wisdom and the humility to wield it carefully.

When they are inclined, as we all are, to take sole credit for the achievements You have orchestrated, call them away to a quiet place, away from the enticement of the world's approbation, and reveal to them Your involvement in their activities and inspire in them again their call to servant leadership.

When any of us are hesitant to use the positions and the possibilities You lay before us, we pray Your blessing over even the most meager of our gifts. Multiply their impact exponentially. May they be sufficient to meet the needs of the people and the country You have given us opportunity to serve.

God, You did not give us a spirit of fear—or of pride—but of power derived from Your own love for all of creation.

Give us also spirits of love and self-control that on this day we would live faithfully into Your gracious plan.

In the strength of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. MORELLE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MORELLE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will take this occasion to update her announced policies of January 4, 2021, regarding the requirement to wear masks in the Hall of the House during the coronavirus crisis.

Consistent with the newly updated guidance from the Office of the Attending Physician related to the increased threat from the delta variant of the virus, the Chair wishes to inform all Members and staff that masks will once again be required in the Hall of the House. However, Members will be permitted to remove their masks temporarily while under recognition.

To be clear, Members and staff must wear masks in the Hall of the House at all times except that a Member may remove his or her mask when recognized by the Chair. In addition, Members presiding as Chair may remove their mask when speaking.

This announcement is incorporated within the policy on conduct during a covered period of January 4, 2021, and supersedes any other announced policy that is in conflict. The Sergeant at Arms is directed to enforce mask requirements consistent with this announcement. Members are reminded that under House Resolution 38, the Sergeant at Arms is authorized and directed to impose a fine against any Member acting in violation of this policy.

The Chair appreciates the continued attention of all Members and staff to

these health and safety protocols, particularly in this changing health environment.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HOT FERC SUMMER

(Mr. CASTEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CASTEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to continue our celebration of Hot FERC summer. As climate activist Fergie would certainly say: The FERCalicious definition is to make our planet cooler.

So listen up, y'all, 'cause this is it. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or better known as the F to the E to the R to the C, is one of the most important Federal agencies to fight climate change. And if I am doing this right, one that a few more of you are now keeping tabs on.

Having a well air-conditioned home when it is "hot-hot"? That is FERCalicious.

Getting your electricity from the lowest cost reliable source? FERCalicious.

An electric transmission system that keeps everything from electric vehicles to steel mills running with zero carbon electricity? FERCalicious.

With record-setting heat waves already causing deadly droughts, wildfires, and overwhelmed power grids, we have run out the clock and must transition to a clean energy economy—and we need FERC's help.

So, today, I am proud to introduce the Right to Timely Rehearings at FERC Act with my friend, Mr. MALINOWSKI, a bill to ensure everyone has access to fair and timely hearings at the Commission.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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But Congress can't do this alone. Moving at the pace demanded by the climate crisis will take all hands on deck. And a fully staffed FERC is going to be critical to that success.

Mr. Speaker, I will now go work on my fitness.

BUDGET MUST INCLUDE HYDE AMENDMENT

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the nearly 2.5 million children whose lives have been saved by the Hyde amendment.

This landmark legislation has been a part of every budget in Congress that we have passed since 1976. Now, this amendment is threatened by liberals in Congress who want to force taxpayers to pay for abortions. This is wrong.

As a doctor, I know that the dignity of life is a fundamental truth. To turn our backs on this amendment would not only subvert the will of the American people, it will cost lives.

By eliminating the Hyde amendment, Democrats want to expand unlimited access to abortion services at taxpayers' expense. Any budget that we pass must include the Hyde amendment.

RECOGNIZING MINNESOTA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION'S KEVIN PAAP

(Mr. EMMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation President Kevin Paap, who will be retiring in November.

Kevin has been president of the Minnesota Farm Bureau for 16 years, during which time I and my team have been fortunate enough to work with him very closely on many occasions.

In addition to being a selfless servant leader, Kevin Paap walks the walk. He and his wife, Julie, own and operate a fourth-generation family farm in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, where they grow corn and soybeans.

Whenever I speak to Kevin, I am impressed by his commitment and focus to improving the lives of Minnesota's farmers and advancing American agriculture. He has been the advocate that our State's farm and ranch community deserves, and we will be forever grateful for his work.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Kevin on his well-earned retirement. I look forward to seeing him and his family again soon.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARGIE RICE

(Mrs. STEEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a well-known figure in our Orange County community, Margie Rice.

Rice served on the Westminster City Council for 22 years and as mayor of Westminster for 12 of those years. Before that, she served as a member of the Westminster School District Board of Trustees for 17½ years.

She dedicated her time to making life better for those she served and was an outspoken force in our community. A cornerstone of her legacy is the Rose Center Theater in Westminster, which she spearheaded and secured funding for.

Rice is survived by two of her four children, 19 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren, and 12 great-great-grandchildren.

Margie Rice was a leader in Westminster for more than six decades, and she will be so missed by family, friends, and our community.

REJECTING MINORITY MEMBERS FOR SELECT COMMITTEE

(Mr. NEHLS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NEHLS. Mr. Speaker, 1 week ago today, Speaker PELOSI made history. For the first time in more than 230 years of the United States House of Representatives, the Speaker of the House rejected the minority party's picks for a select committee.

This House has seen partisan fights. This House has seen turmoil. This House has seen deep division. But never in the history of its existence has it seen a Speaker reject the minority's picks for a select committee until Speaker PELOSI.

Her historic move cemented the January 6th Select Committee as completely partisan from top to bottom. Every committee member was hand-picked by Speaker PELOSI for a specific purpose. And we know what that purpose is: to push her narrative and her agenda.

Despite Speaker PELOSI's attempts to obstruct the truth, Republicans will continue our own investigation and follow the facts where they take us because we owe it to the American people to ensure this never happens again.

□ 1015

CRIME RISING ACROSS THE COUNTRY

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I noticed this morning that in the last week there were a couple more homicides in the city of my birth, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Milwaukee right now is on pace to exceed the record number of homicides they had last year. This did not happen in a vacuum.

There are some people who blame guns, but other crimes are up as well,

which shows guns have nothing to do with it. The reason is that law enforcement is under attack and has been passive, not only in Milwaukee, but in Chicago, in Baltimore, in Philadelphia, and Washington.

And why are they passive? Because politicians in this Chamber and politicians around the country have tried to blame the police for incarceration rather than blame the criminal. And as a result, police are scared to act, afraid to be aggressive, and we have murder rates higher than we have seen in quite a while, and we recently hit 90,000 deaths a year from illegal drug use.

These additional deaths, to me, the blood is on the people who ignore the studies that show that police are not racist and continue to push the police into a more passive fashion. We must stop this cheap politicking.

HONORING BOB GASTONGUAY

(Mr. AMODEI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Bob Gastonguay, who has been with my office since I was elected in 2011.

Prior to his first retirement, Bob had a long and successful career in telecommunications as the executive director of the Nevada State Cable Telecommunications Association.

Why did he come out of retirement? He wanted a Federal job.

No matter the difficulties that came with serving as the face of my front office, Bob has been the perfect person to greet people or take their calls. He greets everyone with a warm welcome, and shows them respect, and makes them feel heard.

As a new member of the octogenarian club, Bob hasn't let his age slow him down. He is always the first one in, constantly on the move, and always striking up a conversation with whom-ever he meets.

In addition to his long career, Bob raised a family of two sons, a granddaughter, and three great-grandchildren with his loving wife of 60 years, Barbara.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Bob for his service to Nevada and to the country.

HONORING THE CAREER AND LEADERSHIP OF NANCY NORR

(Mr. STAUBER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Nancy Norr for the incredible work she has done on behalf of northern Minnesota, and to congratulate her on a well-deserved retirement.

In addition to the 30-plus years that Nancy has spent at Minnesota Power, she has taken leadership roles in a variety of organizations throughout the Northland.

Most notably, Nancy led Jobs for Minnesotans, a group that advocates